

(Free) Montana Road Recreation Atlas

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Benchmark

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Benchmark : Montana Road Recreation Atlas before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Montana Road Recreation Atlas:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. So Good, I Own Most Of The SeriesBy J. WhitesideI've reviewed the other Benchmark maps, but seeing how I live in Montana, I'd like to tell you about my experience with this map here. I've been a long time fan of Benchmark maps and think I have every state except Utah. This map of Montana is far better than common atlas counterparts you'll see out there. I'm actually on my second copy for Montana, one's a duct taped field version and the other's my home reference. I like having paper maps and still make an effort to navigate with them on occasion.I use this to plan out camping trips fairly extensively and have identified some cool areas with it. Most campgrounds are marked, as are fishing holes, raft camps, ranches, nuclear missile sites and other recreational or interesting things worth knowing about an area. The rivers and creeks are well defined and will be an indispensable reference for the fly fishermen who seeks to explore uncharted, challenging waters. State and BLM land is fairly easily identified and all forests are clearly marked. Many major hiking trails and trail systems are displayed on the maps and most geographically interesting things are identified as well. If you like to get out and explore or you're an outdoorsman/outdoorswoman in Montana, there's really no other map for you.The shaded relief maps found in the Benchmark maps are incredibly easy to read for elevation and landscape contours. I've criticized the elevation coloring of higher elevations on other Benchmark state maps, and Montana is no exception. The problem is everything from 6000 feet up is white, so you can't see the difference between a 6,000' peak and a 10K' peak. It's probably even more important here as a fair bit of our land exceeds 6,000 feet. But nonetheless, it's easy to figure out where you're at

within the terrain. The road detail is very good and details everything from the highways to the deep back roads. As I use these maps mostly for deep country exploration, I have found a number of discrepancies in the detail of some of the back country trails and offshoots, but to me, it leaves a little bit of fun in the exploration of an area. But, navigation with these maps is easy and adjacent maps are easily located. There are latitude and longitude sections on the maps in 10 minute increments, allowing easy reference to your GPS or known location. This map is fun to look at, in my opinion. There's at least a dozen alleged big foot sightings identified in the map book. Most, if not all of the Lewis Clark camps are identified throughout the atlas. You can see where various minerals and metals are mined throughout the state. A bonus feature of this map is a fairly decent map of Yellowstone National Park, even though most of it's in Wyoming. Fun fact...I did notice on my versions, and I don't know if this has been corrected in later prints, that the state map on the back of the book (where you identify your inner pages), has incorrectly identified the size and location of Three Forks, MT. Apparently there's a Three Forks up towards Flathead lake and this was somehow confused with the size icon with the well known (and more populated) Three Forks, MT. (This matter is correct on the inside maps, however.) Anyhow, I really dig these maps, so I take the time to review them here on .38 of 38 people found the following review helpful. Finding trailheads and backroads were a breeze By Connie (She who hikes with dogs) I recently completed a two-month road trip, of which two weeks were spent in Montana. This atlas was a godsend, showing me forest roads that were not always noted on other maps. National forests, BLM lands, all were clearly shown in this atlas. I could open to whatever page I needed and find a campground, trail head or a forest to camp in. Special notes of interest were also annotated, showing Lewis and Clark sites, Indian encampments and other historical events. The accuracy of this atlas is impressive. For the Bozeman area there is a special map that shows that area in great detail. The details are so clear that when I finally left Montana for Wyoming, I felt completely lost without my Benchmark map showing me the way. All my old Delorme gazetteers will be replaced with Benchmark maps. Since I use both Benchmark and Delorme maps, I've realized from my road trip that for western states that have greater public lands, the Benchmark atlases serve a better purpose than the road atlas of Delorme. If you like the outdoors, enjoy hiking, camping, cycling or kayaking or American history, or prefer the hidden back roads, this is the atlas for you. Scenic drives, bike trails, major trail heads and even waterfalls are noted here. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent details not found in other maps By L.T. Hanlon Excellent details not found in other maps. I especially like the many notations for campgrounds and ranches. Only negative I've had with the map is its use of color-coding to indicate elevation. Higher elevations have a yellowish-gold background, so all details are easy to read. Lower elevations can be dark green, which can make dark-inked place names and roads hard to locate. Don't know whether it's just me, but the washes of green in the background on the eastern part of the state make small details a challenge for me to read.

Applies to: Montana. A great atlas to have when travelling in Montana or through the state. It gives detailed information on campgrounds, trailheads, RV parks, game management units, hunting, public lands (color coded), recreation, and much more. Includes roads from interstates to backcountry roads; BLM, forest, county, and state campgrounds; private RV resorts, historic sites, fishing sites, and much more. Useful for planning a day trip from any town in Montana. 2015